(b) to (d) Depressive disorders are managed at mental health care hospitals, psychiatric departments of medical colleges, general hospitals and private hospitals by mental health professionals, trained primary health care personnel, clinical psychologists and counsellors. The District Mental Health Programme under the National Mental Health Programme has been launched on a pilot basis in 1996-97 and is presently being implemented in 25 districts spread over 26 States and Union Territories.

News-item "Avoiding Medical Malpractice"

3724. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Avoiding medical malpractice", which appeared in the Times of India, dated 30th July, 2001;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to see that the doctors do not refuse to treat people in accidents and emergency situations and follow a code of ethics; and

(c) the further steps being taken so that the Indian Medical Association does act on public complaints against doctors?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the Code of Medical Ethics prescribed by the Medical Council of India a physician should respond to any request for his assistance in an emergency or whenever temperate public opinion expects the service. The Medical Council of India and State Medical Councils are competent to take disciplinary action against the physicians for violation of Code of Ethics. The Indian Medical Association does not have any power to take action against doctors for violation of Medical Ethics, but it is constantly impressing upon the doctors to strictly follow the Medical Ethics.

Efficacy of Ayurvedic Medicines in treating heart ailments

3725. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Healing the heart the Ayurveda way", which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated 4th March, 2001;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Ayurvedic medicines have proved successful at a very cheap cost in curing patients suffering from blocked arteries and prolonged diseases; and

(c) if so, the steps Government are taking to propagate the use of these Ayurvedic medicines?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR) : (a) The Government is aware of the news report. Arjuteb is a patent proprietary medicine licenced by Haryana State authorities which is claimed to be useful in treating cardiac problems.

(b) According to the Central Council of Research in Ayurveda & Siddha different plant based drugs like Guggulu (Commiphora wightii), Vaca (Acorus Calamus) have been found to be useful in treating Ischaemic Heart Disease.

(c) In order to establish clinical efficacy of various Ayurvedic drugs long term clinical trials have to be undertaken. Facilities are being offered for undertaking such research. In the meantime, steps have also been taken to encourage more Ayurvedic treatment facilities and improve the quality of the medicines sold to the public.

Market share of Maruti Car

3726. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the market share of Maruti car is shrinking in the face of other cars' competition;

(b) its share on 31st March, 1999 and 31st March, 2001; and

(c) the steps taken by the Maruti Management to retain its dominant position and its share in market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJI BHAI KATHIRIA :

(a) and (b) Maruti's market share was 78.9% in 1998-99 and 57.9% in 2000-2001. It had gone down to 40.8% in June, 2000 but has steadily improved since to about 63.8% in July, 2001.